



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the 26th Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice is being sponsored by state and private organizations dedicated to the people of Louisiana by recognizing the family as the most fundamental unit of human society, and that preserving families is essential to a free society; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana believes in the value of children to the family and the community; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana has made major reform efforts in the juvenile justice system to address the juvenile courts, law enforcement, public safety, probation services, correctional and detention facilities, and community-based alternative programs to provide individualized justice and effective intervention; and

WHEREAS, juvenile courts, foster and protective care programs, community-based facilities, and shelter facilities are meeting the needs of children and families by working diligently to provide individualized justice and effective intervention; and

WHEREAS, communities have a responsibility to assist the juvenile justice system to develop alternatives by helping at-risk youth and their families; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana recognizes these challenges and has participated in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act since 1975 to facilitate coordination throughout the system; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana is committed to Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention goals of assigning juveniles to appropriate facilities and addressing the problems of disproportionate minority contact and the mental health needs of juveniles in the system; and

WHEREAS, we as citizens and officials of Louisiana have the power and the determination to make improvements of juvenile justice services our top priority.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim the week of August 28-September 3, 2005, as

JUVENILE JUSTICE WEEK

in the state of Louisiana, and I urge all citizens to give their active support for the programs, agencies, and components of the juvenile justice system and extend wholehearted recognition to the contributions of those persons who are working diligently in their daily activities to reducing and prevent juvenile crime, rehabilitating these youth who are in need of service, and preparing Louisiana's Juvenile Justice System for the future.



Attest By
The Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State

In Witness Whereof, I have herunto set
my hand officially and caused to be affixed the
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this
the 10th day of August
A.D., 2005.

[Signature]
Governor of Louisiana